IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

SEP 2 1 1999

Applicant:

LITTLE et al.

Serial No.:

08/786,988

Filed: January 23, 1997

For:

SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR

PREPARING AND ANALYZING LOW

VOLUME ANALYTE ARRAY ELEMENTS

Art Unit:

1743

Examiner:

Le, L.

AMENDMENT

I hereby certify that this paper and the attached papers are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231/on this date.

09/17/99 Date

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed March 17, 1999, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1, 8, 35-39, 52 and 53 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add claims 91-101 as follows:

- -91. The method of claim 1, wherein the mass spectrometry formatis matrix assisted laser desorption ionization mass spectrometry. -
- -92. The method of claim 31, wherein the mass spectrometry format is matrix assisted laser desorption ionization mass spectrometry. —
- -93. The method of daim 40, wherein the mass spectrometry format is matrix assisted laser desorption ionization mass spectrometry. -
- -94. The method of claim 70, wherein the mass spectrometry format is matrix assisted laser desorption ionization mass spectrometry. -
- -95. The method of claim 1, wherein each spot on the array is of a size produced by a dispensed volume of from 10⁻¹⁰ to 10⁻⁶ L. —